

## **Program A: Administrative**

Program Authorization: R.S. 28:64

### **Program Description**

The mission of the Administrative Program of the Mental Health Advocacy Service (MHAS) is to ensure that the rights of the mentally disabled are protected by:

- (1) making legal representation available to the respondent in every civil commitment proceeding in Louisiana;
- (2) providing legal representation during the initial stages of confinement for every indigent person involuntarily admitted for mental health treatment;
- (3) providing legal representation for every person who has been civilly committed, subsequent to their civil commitment;
- (4) providing legal representation to juveniles committed to mental institutions. The program also acts as a clearinghouse for information relative to the rights of mentally disabled persons.

The goals of the Administrative Program of the Mental Health Advocacy Service are:

1. Provide trained legal representation to every adult and juvenile patient in mental health treatment facilities in Louisiana at all stages of the civil commitment process.
2. Ensure that the legal rights of all mentally disabled persons are protected.

In order to provide services on a statewide basis, the Mental Health Advocacy Service (MHAS) is broken down into the administrative headquarters in Baton Rouge and six agency field offices located around the state. The offices litigate more than 176 cases each month. In addition, the MHAS responds to over 6,000 requests for information annually, provides training for over 1,650 persons annually, addresses numerous systems issues (issues that affect the rights of more than one disabled person and require a change in policy or practice to be remedied), and participates in the community by sitting on boards and commissions. The program also acts as a clearinghouse for information relative to the rights of mentally disabled persons. It is expensive to provide psychiatric hospitalization in state mental hospitals and the cost is paid with state- -not federal dollars. Alternatives to full-time hospitalization are sought by MHAS attorneys on behalf of their clients. These alternatives (which might include commitment to a community mental health center as an outpatient or discharge on the condition that the person continue to take medication) represent a cost savings to the state because expensive inpatient hospitalization is avoided. In addition, MHAS attorneys determine whether clients are willing to accept treatment on a voluntary basis, thus avoiding the need of judicial hearings; and MHAS attorneys attempt to resolve as many cases before trial as possible. In this this way, both judicial and professional time and expenses are saved.

## RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR THE PROGRAM

	ACTUAL 2000-2001	ACT 12 2001-2002	EXISTING 2001-2002	CONTINUATION 2002-2003	RECOMMENDED 2002-2003	RECOMMENDED OVER/(UNDER) EXISTING
MEANS OF FINANCING:						
STATE GENERAL FUND (Direct)	\$681,537	\$806,265	\$806,265	\$801,660	\$795,374	(\$10,891)
STATE GENERAL FUND BY:						
Interagency Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees & Self-gen. Revenues	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Dedications	0	0	0	7,237	7,237	7,237
Interim Emergency Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	<b>\$681,537</b>	<b>\$806,265</b>	<b>\$806,265</b>	<b>\$808,897</b>	<b>\$802,611</b>	<b>(\$3,654)</b>
EXPENDITURES & REQUEST:						
Salaries	\$494,302	\$566,667	\$565,801	\$580,514	\$580,514	\$14,713
Other Compensation	10,091	13,200	13,200	13,200	13,200	0
Related Benefits	90,003	109,567	109,567	125,455	123,324	13,757
Total Operating Expenses	75,241	78,809	79,675	78,843	62,398	(17,277)
Professional Services	0	2,284	2,284	2,387	2,284	0
Total Other Charges	11,620	15,053	15,053	8,498	20,891	5,838
Total Acq. & Major Repairs	280	20,685	20,685	0	0	(20,685)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND REQUEST	<b>\$681,537</b>	<b>\$806,265</b>	<b>\$806,265</b>	<b>\$808,897</b>	<b>\$802,611</b>	<b>(\$3,654)</b>
AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS: Classified	14	14	14	14	14	0
Unclassified	1	1	1	1	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>

## SOURCE OF FUNDING

This program is funded with State General Fund and Statutory Dedications. Dedications are derived from the Deficit Elimination Fund.

	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>ACT 12</b>	<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>CONTINUATION</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED</b>
	<b>2000-2001</b>	<b>2001-2002</b>	<b>2001-2002</b>	<b>2002-2003</b>	<b>2002-2003</b>	<b>OVER/(UNDER)</b>
						<b>EXISTING</b>
Deficit Elimination Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,237	\$7,237	\$7,237

## MAJOR FINANCIAL CHANGES

GENERAL FUND	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$806,265	\$806,265	15	ACT 12 FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002
			BA-7 TRANSACTIONS:
\$0	\$0	0	None
\$806,265	\$806,265	15	EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET - December 20, 2001
\$8,709	\$8,709	0	Annualization of FY 2001-2002Classified State Employees Merit Increase
\$8,131	\$8,131	0	Classified State Employees Merit Increases for FY 2002-2003
(\$172)	(\$172)	0	Risk Management Adjustment
(\$20,685)	(\$20,685)	0	Non-Recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$9,350)	(\$9,350)	0	Maintenance of State-Owned Buildings
\$223	\$223	0	UPS Fees
\$0	\$7,237	0	Group Insurance Adjustment
\$41	\$41	0	Civil Service Fees
\$2,212	\$2,212	0	Other Adjustments - Funding for Capitol Security.
\$795,374	\$802,611	15	TOTAL RECOMMENDED
\$0	\$0	0	LESS GOVERNOR'S SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS
\$795,374	\$802,611	15	BASE EXECUTIVE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003
			SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE:
\$0	\$0	0	None
\$0	\$0	0	TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE
\$795,374	\$802,611	15	GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

\$2,284 Funding for legal services for clients.

**\$2,284 TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**OTHER CHARGES**

\$0 None

**\$0 SUB-TOTAL OTHER CHARGES****Interagency Transfers:**

\$10,140	Office of Telecommunication Management charges
\$2,981	Maintenance of state-owned buildings
\$2,572	Office of Risk Management insurance charges
\$2,212	Department of Public Safety capitol security
\$1,716	Department of Civil Service fees
\$728	Division of Administration - Uniform Payroll System fees
\$542	Comprehensive Public Training Program fees

**\$20,891 SUB-TOTAL INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS****\$20,891 TOTAL OTHER CHARGES**

## **ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS**

This program does not have funding recommended for Acquisitions and Major Repairs for Fiscal Year 2002-2003.